REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. After entry of this reply, claims 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150 and 152-189 are pending in the application. Claims 133, 140, 141, 148, 149, and 156 are amended. Claims 1-132 have been previously cancelled.

Pending claims under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

This response is being submitted with information required in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated October 3, 2008. The initial reply filed in response to the Office Action dated May 23, 2008 was filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on Monday, August 25, 2008, as August 23, 2008, was a Saturday.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC § 112, 2nd Paragraph

The Examiner rejects claim 133, 134, 136-138, 140-142, 144-146, 148-150, 152-154, 156-172, 174-179, 181-186, 188 and 189 under 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner notes the allowable claim limitation in claims 163 and 166 (in accordance with the Board's Appeal Decision) as follows: "generating the business database system automatically using the semantic definitions, whereby the business database system is well-formed." Applicants have amended claims 133, 140, 141, 148, 149 and 156 to precisely recite the Examiner noted allowable claim limitation.

The Examiner rejects claims 133 as being unclear, vague and indefinite as to what "instructions" are being referenced in the claim. The Examiner inquires whether the

Applicants are referring to "instructions for generating one or more database systems or something else"?

The Applicants refer the Examiner to the definition of "Program" in the definition section of the application wherein "instructions" is defined therein. As recognized by an appreciation of the specification and claims, "instructions" as used in the application refers to a "*single operation*" executed by a computer.

An example of "receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system" is found in Figure 1 as described on page 14 lines 12 through 21, which states:

> The schema definitions 161 hold the definition of the schema for the datamart 150. Typically, a consultant, using the consultant computer 190, can interface with the enterprise manager 102 to define the schema definition 161 for the datamart 150. In particular, the consultant can use the enterprise manager interface 192 to define a star schema for the datamart 150. This star schema is organized around the business processes of the business for which the datamart is being created. What is important is that the consultant can easily define a schema for the datamart 150 and that definition is kept in the schema definitions 161. From the schema definitions 161, not only can the tables in the datamart 150 be generated, but also the automatic extraction and conversion of the data from the source systems 110 can be performed, aggregates are set up, and a query mechanism is generated.

An example of "receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system" is found in Figure 2 as described on page 20 lines 8 through 20 which states:

> At block 210, a consultant uses the enterprise manager 102 to define the schema. The schema is defined using the metadata 160. This process is illustrated in greater detail in FIG. 7 through FIG. 35. Generally, defining the schema involves determining the business processes of the organization for which the system 100 is being implemented. The consultant then defines the star schema for those business processes. The star schema has a fact table and a number of dimensions. The consultant also defines from where the data in the

schema is to be derived. That is, the consultant defines from which fields and tables the information is to be extracted from the source systems 110. The consultant also defines how that data is to be put into the datamart 150. That is, the consultant associates each piece of data with a semantic meaning. This semantic meaning defines how the data from the source system is to be manipulated and how it is to populate the datamart 150. At this point, the consultant can also define the aggregates that can be used in the datamart 150.

These examples of the use of the phrase "instructions" and as used in claim 133 give a clear definition of the term.

The Examiner rejects claims 134 as being unclear, vague and indefinite as to what "instructions" are being referenced in the claim. The Examiner inquires whether the Applicants are referring to "semantic definitions or something else"?

An example of "generating tables" is described on page 21 lines 13 through 16 which states:

> At block 230, the enterprise manager 102 issues the table generation statements to the database upon which the datamart 150 is being created. That database creates the tables, which correspond to the datamart 150. After block 230, the build the datamart process 202 is complete.

This example illustrates the definition of "instructions" is based on an "operation" being performed to obtain a result, e.g. creation of the tables.

Applicants respectfully submit one of skill in the art would appreciate the term "instructions" as it is being used in claims 133, 134 and claims 136-138, 140-142, 144-146, 148-150, 152-154, 156-172, 174-179, 181-186, and 189 which the Examiner believes have the same problem, based on an appreciation of the specification and the application as a whole.

The Examiner requests the Applicants "point out" where a business database system is found in the specification. The Examiner recognizes that elements exist which might suggest business database but nothing specifically references a business database system.

Applicants respectfully submit a business database system is well defined throughout the specification. Specifically, a system 100 is well defined and explained in Figure 1 and pages 13 through 20. Elements directed to a business use can be found throughout the specification but specifically in Figure 7 and pages 71 and 72. Figure 7 illustrates the enterprise manager interface 192 of the system 100, wherein a sales 720 and expense constellation are illustrated.

Accordingly, Applicants believe all 35 USC § 112, 2nd paragraph issues have been satisfactorily addressed and the rejections should be withdrawn.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner objects to the specification because on page 11, line 10, it is unclear whether the term "and" is supposed to be in the sentence.

Applicants respectfully submit the Examiner is referring to page 14, line 21 and not page 11, line 10 of the "specification as filed". However, Applicants have reviewed the specification and believe it is accurate.

Accordingly, Applicants believe the objection has been satisfactorily addressed and should be withdrawn.
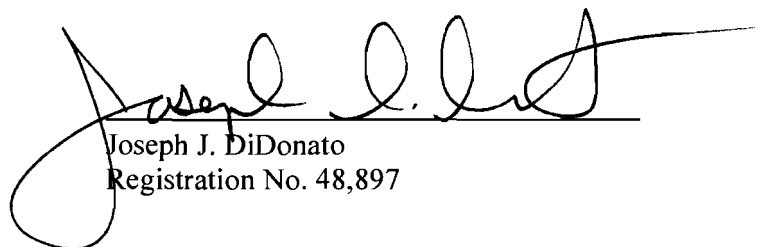
CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that pending claims 133, 134, 136-142, 144-150 and 152-189 are allowable, that the application is in condition for allowance, and request that the Examiner issue an early notice of allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney, upon her further review and examination of this application, should any further clarification or formalities exist. Perhaps the requirements can be satisfied by Examiner's Amendment.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of the fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 02-2555.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 10, 2008

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